



*Pulling Together for the Children of Frederick County*

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## Frederick County Interagency Early Childhood Committee

*A Subcommittee of the Local Management Board*

### **Mission Statement:**

To promote the healthy development and well-being of young children and their families through community collaboration

### **Meeting Minutes**

August 3, 2023

**Attendees:** Pat Rosensteel, Erin Gambrill, Mary Meyer, Rousana Soto, Tara Plowman, Micheline Lucina, Shelly Toms, Kerry Fair, Linda Duckett, Latoya Smothers, Stacy Wantz, Willie J. Mahone, Samantha Carter, Leslie Frei, Barbara Pinnock, Brittany Rosado, Nancy Boyd, Kathy Allen, Jessica Lertora, and Sara Martin.

**June's Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Pat Rosensteel and seconded by Willie Mahone. Approved with edits to attendees.

### **Subcommittee Report Outs & Next Steps**

- Awareness Committee – Pat Rosensteel & Erin Gambrill
  - Recommended to wait until IECC website is up for a few weeks/months to track analytics
  - Trying to understand the bandwidth of the committee to focus on resources for families; recommended that IECC members send updates with research information to vet and then put on website.
  - Erin is creating a directory of contacts with IECC members first and then additional contacts as we grow!
  - Social Media/Facebook presence. Shelly reported that Frederick County is looking and having a discussion regarding social media as many programs have a presence.
  - Recommendation made that this committee helps disseminate information back and forth between Children's Festival and the IECC about needs to help with planning.
  - Researching Frameworks refresher classes and will bring information back to the IECC.
  - Will connect with the Data/Research workgroup to collaborate around resources in the community.
- Collaboration Committee – Micheline Lucena & TBD
  - The Judy Center has resources it can provide to meet goals such as family survey (other partners have similar surveys they are happy to share so we have a repository of surveys.)
  - Conversation was held around if our action items are focusing on individual families or programmatic/macro?
    - Will review the overall strategic plan.

- Data & Advocacy Committee – Diana Fulchiron & Jessica Lertora
  - We have met and have a standing meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 1:00pm to focus on strategic plan goals.
  - Looking at ways that our work can possibly be infused or informed by Data Driven Frederick.

#### **1:30pm – 1:40pm Partner Presentation:**

- Mary Meyer – FCDC
- Presentation:
  - <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/347489/IECC-PowerPoint-Presentation172021>
  - Frederick County Developmental Center (4 programs):
    - Infants and Toddlers Program –
      - Staff of around 50 people which includes Speech Language Pathologists, Special Educators, Family Mental Health Clinicians, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists and Program Service Specialists
      - Provide developmental services to children ages 0-3 with a 25% delay and offer extended Individual Family Service Plans for children ages 3-4.
      - Provide services in natural environments (day care, home).
    - School Based Occupational and Physical Therapists –
      - Assigned at every school in Frederick County. Some will provide services in private daycares, home for hospital programming within an IEP.
    - Audiology Clinic –
      - Team of 1!
      - Provide hearing screens and outreach services.
      - Referrals primarily come from Frederick County Public Schools, Infants and Toddlers and for some adults.
    - Dental Clinic –
      - Serve children age 18 and under who have Medical Assistance or no insurance and use a sliding scale fee. Support those who may not have a dental home.
      - 4 contract dentists, 3 dental assistants and 1 admin; 3 staff are bilingual.
      - Also provide dental outreach to conduct screenings and match families up with dental homes.

#### **1:40-1:55 pm Updates & Networking**

##### ***Focusing & Strengthening Our Collective Efforts in Frederick County***

- Child Care Choices: Samantha Carter – Planning is underway for the Fall Conference. Focus will be on the mental health of child care providers. Have secured a keynote speaker (Laura Martin from Verner Center in Asheville NC).
- Frederick County Child Care Market Study Updates:
  - [https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/347490/Fred-Co-Child-Care-Market-Study-IECC-Update-8\\_3\\_23\\_draft](https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/347490/Fred-Co-Child-Care-Market-Study-IECC-Update-8_3_23_draft) Shelly Toms – see PPT Slide show attached. Study is scheduled to wrap up in February of 2024. When the report comes out, the real work begins with digging into the recommendations and create focuses for the earmarked ARPA funding set aside by the County Executive.
- Maryland Consortium Community Supports Grants:
  - <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/347488/Application->

[Guidance Consortium-Funding 8123](#) Shelly Toms – Spoke and Hub model. The Spoke RFPs have been delayed and will be released in mid August, will close applications in mid October and notify applicants in December. Services will have to start mid year and they are also open to supporting 2 generational approaches to support young children. Lynn Davis and Jay Hessler met with the community to discuss the funding and see what partners would like to collaborate on the focus of behavioral/mental health services for the school system (needs to be signed off by the superintendent).

#### **1:55pm - 2:00pm: Partner Sharing**

- Monocacy Foundation has a grant opportunity: <https://themonocacyfoundation.org/apply-for-funding/>
- Pre-K Enrollments - programs that still have space for income qualifying families, English Learners, or IEPs: Ballenger Creek, butterfly Ridge, Emmitsburg, Lincoln Elem, Thurmont Primary
- COGO is the charity of the month at Frederick Social, so head out and support!

#### **2:00pm Adjourn**

#### **Next Meeting – September 7, 2023 1:00 pm**

*Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Jessica Lertora*  
Presentations – Felicia Jones-Taylor, Building Better Beginnings



#### **Strategic Plan Goals**

- The IECC raises awareness of the needs of children ages 0-5 and resources to support their families.
- The IECC strengthens services and support systems through strong relationships and collaboration.
- The IECC researches, prioritizes, and promotes best practices in programs and policy for early childhood education and child and family serving systems so that young children reach their full potential.
- The IECC sets, advocates for, and monitors priorities that benefit children ages 0-5 and their families.

#### **Goal Group Chair and Co-Chair**

- Awareness Committee – Pat Rosensteel & Erin Gambrill
- Collaboration Committee – Micheline Lucena & TBD
- Data & Advocacy – Diana Fulchiron & Jessica Lertora